

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

- Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 18 (Amended Sheet in the IPRP) with the following paragraph:

US4774134 (Kehe) discloses a reclosable plastics cap having a top panel, a skirt and a plastics coated aluminium element attached to the cap to provide a gas barrier inhibiting gas flow through the cap, such that a peripheral aluminium edge of the aluminium element cannot come into contact with the contents of a container closed by the cap in use. Kehe uses an over moulding technique which requires the element that is moulded into a cap during production to be relatively rigid. Kehe teaches the use of gas barrier insert including a layer of metal foil, a primer coating on one face, a plastic bonding layer and an organosol coating. Over moulding requires a robot to hold an insert in place in each cap mould and this is an expensive and time-consuming procedure. JP 2002-59948 (Omi Hidehiko) also describes an over moulded cap in which a foil is embedded into a valve wall.

- Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 5 (Amended Sheet in the IPRP) with the following two paragraphs:

The present invention provides a method of producing a cap from an existing plastics component, comprising a top panel surrounded by a skirt, and a plastics coated aluminium gas barrier foil, the method comprising the steps of placing the barrier foil adjacent the top panel and induction heat welding the foil to the panel by melting the component indirectly by contact with the heated foil. The gas barrier can be arranged on the top panel or sandwiched above a valve plate. New design possibilities are opened up by an appreciation that the gas barrier does not need to face the contents of the container to be effective.

The present invention also provides a reclosable plastics cap having a top panel, a skirt, a gas barrier to inhibit gas flow through the cap, and a closed plug substantially filling a void inside the cap to define a valve adapted to fit inside and seal against an inner wall of a neck of a container to which the cap is fitted, characterised in that the cap can be resealed and in that the gas barrier

is provided by means of a plastics coated aluminium foil induction heat sealed to plastics material of the cap.

- Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 14 (Amended Sheet in the IPRP) with the following paragraph:

Alternatively the present invention provides a reclosable plastics cap having a top panel and a skirt, wherein a plastics coated aluminium foil liner has a peripheral edge that is embedded and fused into an external surface of the skirt or top panel of the cap.

- Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 5A, line 6 (Amended Sheet in the IPRP).
- Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5A, line 24 (Amended Sheet in the IPRP) with the following paragraph:

In order that the invention may be well understood, seven embodiments thereof will now be described, by way of example only, with reference to the accompanying diagrammatic drawings, in which: